

219931US-0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
HIROSHI AKEMA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN:  
(Based on PCT/JP01/05660)  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: RUBBER COMPOSITION :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

5. (Amended) The rubber composition according to claim 1, wherein,
- a monomer forming said conjugated diene unit constituting said crosslinked rubber particle is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,3-butadiene, 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene, isoprene and chloroprene,
- a monomer forming said aromatic vinyl monomer unit constituting said crosslinked rubber particle is at least one selected from the group consisting of styrene, 2-methylstyrene,